GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:365
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
ALLOTMENT OF BERTHS IN TRAINS
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that lower berths are allotted to the persons who reserve tickets at the initial stage itself in large numbers on the same PNR number which leads to the allotment of only middle and upper berths even to the elderly persons who book tickets later on;

(b) if so, the details of the existing guidelines regarding allotment of berths in case of railway ticket reservation;

(c) whether the Government proposes to ban the practice of out of turn allotment of lower berths; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R.VELU)

(a) & (b): In the computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) the passengers can book berths as per their choice on first cum first served basis subject to availability of required berths at the time of booking. However, for a group of passengers booked under one PNR compact accommodation is allotted in a bay including lower, middle and upper berths as the case may be subject to availability.
Senior Citizens are automatically allotted lower berths even if they don't give their choice provided lower berths are available at the time of booking. Besides, a combined reservation quota of two lower berths per coach has been earmarked in Sleeper, AC-3 tier and AC-2 tier classes for senior citizens, female passengers of 45 years of age and above and pregnant women travelling alone.

(c): At present it is not proposed to change the existing logic.

(d): Does not arise.